

SENATE BILL 281

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2004 Regular Session
(4lr1531)

ENROLLED BILL

-- Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Health and Government Operations --

Introduced by **Senator Conway**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and**
3 **Speech-Language Pathologists - ~~Membership~~ Voting Powers**

4 FOR the purpose of ~~decreasing the number of Board members to a certain number~~
5 limiting the voting power of a certain number of members of the State Board of
6 Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and Speech-Language
7 Pathologists; and generally relating to the ~~composition~~ voting powers of
8 members of the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid
9 Dispensers, and Speech-Language Pathologists.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article - Health Occupations
12 Section 2-202(a)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
2 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

3 **Article - Health Occupations**

4 2-202.

5 (a) (1) The Board consists of ~~{13}~~~~{14}~~ members.

6 (2) Of the ~~{13}~~~~{14}~~ Board members:

7 (i) 3 shall be licensed audiologists who have at least 5 years' paid
8 work experience in audiology;

9 (ii) 3 shall be licensed speech-language pathologists who have at
10 least 5 years' paid work experience in speech-language pathology;

11 ~~{(iii)}~~ 2 shall be physicians who SHALL BE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE
12 BOARD, EXCEPT ON PROPOSALS THAT EXPAND OR RESTRICT THE PRACTICE OF
13 AUDIOLOGY AS DEFINED IN § 2-101(N) OF THIS TITLE OR THAT EXPAND OR RESTRICT
14 THE PRACTICE OF SPEECH PATHOLOGY AS DEFINED IN § 2-101(O) OF THIS TITLE.
15 AND WHO:

16 1. Are licensed to practice medicine in this State; and

17 2. Hold a certificate of qualification from the American
18 Board of Otolaryngology;}

19 ~~{(iv)}~~ ~~{(iii)}~~ 2 shall be consumer members, 1 of whom shall be hearing
20 impaired; and

21 ~~{(v)}~~ ~~{(iv)}~~ 3 shall be licensed hearing aid dispensers who have at
22 least 5 years' paid work experience in dispensing hearing aids.

23 ~~{(3)}~~ The Governor shall appoint the physician members, with the advice
24 of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor by the
25 Maryland Society of Otolaryngology with the approval of the Medical and Chirurgical
26 Faculty of the State of Maryland. There shall be at least 3 names on the list.}

27 ~~{(4)}~~ ~~{(3)}~~ The Governor shall appoint the speech-language pathologist
28 members, with the advice of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and
29 the Governor by the Maryland Speech-Language and Hearing Association. The
30 number of names on the list shall be at least 3 times the number of vacancies.

31 ~~{(5)}~~ ~~{(4)}~~ (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the
32 Governor shall appoint the audiologist members, with the advice of the Secretary,
33 from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor, jointly by the Maryland
34 Academy of Audiology and the Maryland Speech-Language and Hearing Association.
35 The number of names on the list shall be at least 3 times the number of vacancies.

1 (ii) For each audiologist vacancy, the Maryland Academy of
2 Audiology and the Maryland Speech-Language and Hearing Association shall:

3 1. Notify by mail all licensed audiologists in the State of the
4 vacancy to solicit nominations to fill the vacancy; and

5 2. Conduct a balloting process by mail by which every
6 licensed audiologist in the State is eligible to vote on the names of the licensed
7 audiologists to be submitted to the Secretary and the Governor.

8 ~~{(6)}~~ ~~(5)~~ The Governor shall appoint the hearing aid dispenser members,
9 with the advice of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and the
10 Governor by the Maryland members of the Hearing Aid Specialist Association of
11 Maryland, District of Columbia, and Delaware. The number of names on the list shall
12 be at least 3 times the number of vacancies.

13 ~~{(7)}~~ ~~(6)~~ (i) The Governor shall appoint the consumer members with
14 the advice of the Secretary and the advice and consent of the Senate.

15 (ii) 1. The Governor shall appoint the hearing impaired
16 consumer member from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor by the
17 Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities.

18 2. The Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities
19 shall solicit nominees from each of the hearing impaired associations in the State.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
21 effect October 1, 2004.